

# News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Russ Guiney Named California State Parks Statewide Superintendent of the Year**

LOS ANGELES - Russ Guiney was recently named California State Parks "Statewide Superintendent of the Year" by State Parks Acting Director Ruth Coleman. Mr. Guiney was recognized for his accomplishments in implementing the Governor's Urban Parks Initiative through the acquisition and operation of new State Parklands at the Baldwin Hills and along the Los Angeles River at Taylor Yard and the Cornfield near Chinatown. He also helped resolve the 50-year long issues surrounding boarding of private horses at Will Rogers State Historic Park and public access issues at Point Dume State Beach.

Bill Berry, Deputy Director for Park Operations, commended Guiney as a leader in the department and for his role in tackling the politically complex issues of operating state parks in the urban setting of Los Angeles. Berry also noted that Guiney's selection was based on input from over 30 other district superintendents and division chiefs throughout the department highlighting the recognition of his peers.

In addition Guiney was presented with the department's "On Target, On Budget Award" given to the district which completes all its projects and closes the year with a budget that complies most accurately with its proposed spending plan.

The awards cap a 27-year career with California State Parks for Guiney, the last 11 being in the Los Angeles area and most recently as Angeles District Superintendent in charge of 23 state parks. Mr. Guiney is departing to accept the position of Chief Deputy Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation. He will be second in charge of the agency with 1,000 employees operating 130 local and regional parks serving the 10 million residents of the state's largest metropolitan area.

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